



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 8, 2016 – LOS ANGELES

**ALISO CANYON GAS LEAK – INCIDENT UPDATE – FEBRUARY 8, 2016**

**Los Angeles County Department of Public Health**

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) issued its second report of the results of air monitoring and health assessments on the Aliso Canyon gas leak incident. The report represents an ongoing effort to consolidate and evaluate data collected by multiple parties as part of the Expanded Air Monitoring Plan (EAMP).

While the second report includes updated air monitoring results, it also provides a summary of Public Health's activities to collect information from residents, medical providers, and veterinarians in order to assess health effects.

Highlights from the February 5, 2016 report:

- Results from air monitoring show that concentrations of chemicals resulting from the natural gas leak have been decreasing over time. Recent levels in community areas are comparable to levels measured in other parts of Los Angeles County.
- Public Health has received only a few reports from veterinarians and pet owners on animals becoming ill after exposure. There have been no official reports of wildlife becoming ill or dying in the area.
- Public Health has conducted outreach to medical providers, including (2) hospitals, (2) emergency departments and (12) urgent care facilities, to provide information about the natural gas leak as well as to gather information on whether patients may have been seen for symptoms possibly related to the gas leak.

Public Health will continue to monitor the trends of health symptoms of those living in the affected communities. The EAMP and other public health assessment activities will continue until Public Health determines that these are no longer necessary.

This report on the expanded air monitoring plan and assessments of health is available at:

[www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/gasleak](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/gasleak).

**Los Angeles County Fire Department**

Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD) continues to meet the incident objectives which include providing for the safety and security of the public and those involved with the incident and limiting the effects of the natural gas leak to the community and the environment.

Here are some updates as of February 8, 2016:

- LACoFD's Health Hazardous Materials Division (HHMD) and Public Health conduct random spot checks of the SoCal Gas Company's field sampling techniques to assure these are in compliance with standard protocols.
- HHMD assisted the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) with the inspection of a number of wellheads throughout the Aliso Canyon facility.
- Fire resources have been evaluated during the fire weather event (Red Flag Warning) with staffing increases made accordingly.
- The Remote Automatic Weather Station (RAWS) assigned to the incident has recorded winds at 69 mph during this Red Flag Warning event. This event is expected to end later tonight.

### **Media Inquiries**

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### **About the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health**

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is committed to protecting and improving the health of the nearly 10 million residents of Los Angeles County. Through a variety of programs, community partnerships and services, Public Health oversees environmental health, disease control, and community and family health. Public Health comprises nearly 4,000 employees and has an annual budget exceeding \$900 million. To learn more about the LA County Department of Public Health and the work they do, visit [PublicHealth.LACounty.gov](http://PublicHealth.LACounty.gov), and follow Public Health on social media at [twitter.com/LAPublicHealth](https://twitter.com/LAPublicHealth), [facebook.com/LAPublicHealth](https://facebook.com/LAPublicHealth), and [youtube.com/LAPublicHealth](https://youtube.com/LAPublicHealth).

### **About the Los Angeles County Fire Department**

The Los Angeles County Fire Department is committed to protecting lives, the environment, and property by providing prompt, skillful, and cost-effective fire protection and life safety services. LACoFD's ability to develop new techniques and equipment to fight fires of all kinds has benefited not only the residents we serve, but the fire service in general, both nationally and internationally. LACoFD's Health Hazardous Materials Division protects the public health and the environment throughout Los Angeles County from accidental releases and improper handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials and wastes through coordinated efforts of inspections, emergency response, enforcement, and site mitigation oversight.